

# Hollrah Presents Poster at Oklahoma Academy of Science

12.01.2006

Southwestern Oklahoma State University junior biology student David Hollrah of Oklahoma City (PC North), along with faculty sponsor Dr. Steven O'Neal, recently presented a poster at the 95th annual technical meeting of the Oklahoma Academy of Science held recently in Claremore.

The poster, entitled "Monitoring of Total Coliform and Escherichia coli levels for a Third Order Stream in Western Oklahoma," looked at levels of coliform and E. coli bacteria during the period of April to September at four sites along Little Deep Creek, a stream located along the southern edge of Weatherford.

These bacteria are used as indicators of water contamination by fecal material and the possible presence of disease causing microbes in streams, according to Dr. Peter Grant, chair of the SWOSU Biological Sciences Department. The study found that Little Deep Creek experienced one period when bacterial levels exceeded state water quality standards. This period was associated with a heavy rainfall suggesting that the bacteria entered the stream from non-point sources in the watershed.